INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC TRIBUNAL ON THE CRIMES OF UKRAINIAN NEO-NAZI

THE FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY

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UKRAINE'S WAR CRIMES: TORTURE AND ABUSE OF CAPTIVE RUSSIAN SERVICEMEN

Moscow 2025

In May 2025, the International Public Tribunal on Crimes of Ukrainian Neo-Nazis conducted interviews with Russian military personnel who had been tortured in Ukraine.

Nearly all Russian servicemen were subjected to constant brutal beatings both in combat units, in SBU (Security Service of Ukraine) facilities, in pretrial detention centers (SIZO), in Ukrainian concentration camps, and during transport through numerous checkpoints.

A.Z. Rakhimov testifies: 'First the Ukrainians used waterboarding – covered the face, drowned me – the drowning torture when there's no air. Then they heated a pipe and started burning me. Back, legs. They burned me, then tore off the scorched skin and salted me. They sprinkled salt on me.'

S.A. Komissarov recounts: 'The Ukrainians immediately started beating me with rifle butts and kicking me. They tried to steal my wedding ring – when it wouldn't come off, they simply broke my finger, twisted it, and then yanked the ring off. Then they took me to their position near Pokrovsk, stripped me naked, put a bag over my head. They led me into the yard, stripped me, and shot through my legs with a Kalashnikov rifle.'

V.S. Arutyunov testifies: 'In the "Zapad-4" concentration camp in Lviv, there were about 800 people. 90% had been previously tortured by the Ukrainians. In our captured group, some were beaten with batons, some guys were tortured on electric chairs, dogs were set on them. They were bitten – one comrade who was later exchanged with me is here. After the dog torture, the pinky on his right hand doesn't work. They'd put a wet rag on the face and pour water. A person simply can't breathe. They were tortured near Sudzha, in some houses.' The torture continued in prisons and SIZOs.

P.V. Besschasny recounts: 'In the Vinnytsia SIZO, every morning they lined us up against the wall in the corridor and beat our kidneys with batons, sometimes with fists. Then they'd supposedly take us out for a walk, bring us back, let us stand and breathe for ten minutes, then take us in for the exact same procedure – beating our kidneys again.'

V.A. Podat describes how they were beaten at every checkpoint on the way to Kharkiv: 'Continuous violence when they transported us from basement to basement and at checkpoints toward Kharkiv. At checkpoints they'd throw us out of the vehicle and beat us with mallets and bats. They broke my ribs.'

The practice of constant beatings also occurs in Ukrainian concentration camps holding Russian POWs. N.I. Makushin recounts: 'Then I ended up in a Ukrainian concentration camp. In the camp, the Ukrainians do whatever they want. They'd take you to a room and beat you. Even the duty officer might come beat you. Some kicked, others – their inspectors – used batons.'

Yu.A. Evstigneev describes the practice of deceiving the Red Cross, which is widely believed to support the Ukrainian side: 'Obviously you wouldn't tell the Red Cross everything that happened there. Prisoners don't trust them, don't tell them the truth, because they see the Red Cross as Ukrainian protection. If you tell the truth, they might just kill you afterward.'

Multiple witnesses, including A.A. Shurakhov, confirm that constant beatings and torture led to deaths of Russian servicemen: 'They immediately ordered all of us newcomers to strip naked and beat us with whips, sticks, clubs. One of us was beaten on the head – he walked around wheezing all day, his ribs were broken. In the morning we woke up and he had died. They'd also beaten him with a whip — those thick interwoven cords. They tortured us with electricity, attaching electrodes to genitals and chests. They'd also tie a bag over the head to suffocate you.'

Beatings were often accompanied by electric torture. Russian serviceman V.Yu. Palitsyn recounts: 'During the very first interrogation I lost teeth. The Ukrainians knocked out my teeth. They put me on an electric chair. Electrodes were attached to my genitals and chest. They used three current settings. They staged "dances" – switching from slow to high current. I thought my eyes would pop out.'

Another common Ukrainian torture method was various forms of suffocation, including American-style waterboarding. M.I. Rodionov testifies: 'One interrogated while another stood nearby strangling with a hose. They said they'd harvest my organs and such. They strangled with sticks and beat with sticks. Same thing in Kharkiv prison. There was some Vasya – "Vasya the Beater."'

D.S. Rychin, a victim of the Kiev regime, mentions waterboarding among other Ukrainian tortures and gives his assessment: 'In SIZO people told many stories. Some had fingers cut off. They used electric chairs, waterboarding. I used to think this only happened in movies. But no – turns out Ukrainian imagination is very extensive.'

A.V. Brovkin describes his own experience: 'They poured water on the face – waterboarding. Beat with iron pipes, sand-filled bats, rubber batons. Dogs always – that's the first thing. The Ukrainians are sadists.'

Numerous victims report that setting dogs on people was another common torture method. Russian serviceman I.P. Myakishev recounts: 'Dogs are their favorite thing, it seems. Fighting breeds that they keep hungry – angry dogs. One prisoner hasn't been exchanged yet. All his legs are still rotting. All from dog bites. In the camp I spoke with a man who had a tourniquet tightened on his arm until it went numb and completely atrophied. Six months later, he still can't move it.'

Particularly brutal torture was inflicted by Ukrainians on Buryats, Yakuts, Crimean residents, DPR/LPR fighters, former Wagner fighters, and current Akhmat fighters. V.V. Svechnikov testifies: 'The Ukrainians told us: 'You're Yakuts, and we hate Yakuts.' So they beat us. Beat our backs, heads, legs. Then in Kharkiv they beat us again. Then in the hospital they abused us too.'

Russian servicemen describe cases of sophisticated abuse and various manifestations of sadism widely practiced in Ukrainian Armed Forces. V.Yu. Palitsyn testifies: 'I'll never forget one Ukrainian with a metal rod and beard. He beat me with the rod on the chest and neck. Just whipping me and smiling. He was happy.'

O.D. Gergenov recounts: 'The Ukrainians took photos with me while beating me, then shared them via WhatsApp. "Check it out, we caught a Buryat." They told me: "Let's stick a knife under your ribs, cut off your genitals, foam your anus."'

A.B. Okhotnikov testifies: 'They forced us to record greetings. Like, "I'm so-and-so, wishing you happy birthday..." They sat me on a chair, naked below the waist, tied my genitals with wire and tightened it. They only stripped to the waist because below that I was already naked.'

E.A. Skorlupkin recounts: 'They brought us to a basement where a specially trained Ukrainian visited. His call sign was "Funtik." He tortured us with hands, feet, four hoses, polypropylene pipes, and a stun gun. For the first five months he came every other day. He took indescribable pleasure from torture. He tried to "educate" us. "Learn the Ukrainian anthem, learn Ukrainian poems." He handed out Ukrainian-language papers. If you didn't remember – torture.'

V.V. Yaremin also describes how Russian POWs were tortured into learning the Ukrainian anthem and Azov anthem: 'They played the Azov anthem, forced us to kneel and beat us. Eyes

closed, hands tied. Beat us for hours, almost till morning. Played the Ukrainian anthem – if you couldn't repeat it, they beat you until you learned. Mix up a word – they start beating you again.'

M.I. Rodionov lists tortures and abuses described by Russian POWs in Ukrainian concentration camps: 'In the camp people described threats to cut off genitals, one had his leg drilled through. They beat with sticks, iron rods, iron pipes, batons on arms – smashed hands, broke wrists. They'd beat two men and force them to urinate on each other.'

R.V. Chernikov testifies: *'Currently in Ukrainian concentration camp "Zapad-1" in Lviv is POW Artyom Evgenievich Samoilov. The Ukrainians carved a swastika into him.'*

Interviewees widely testify to sadistic behavior by Ukrainian doctors, including surgeries and procedures performed without anesthesia on Russian POWs – similar to Nazi doctor Mengele's experiments at Auschwitz.

F.V. Chukurov recounts: 'They broke my legs and two other prisoners' legs with bats. Without anesthesia, they dug out shrapnel while we were conscious. From doctors I heard swearing directed at me, and they kicked my injured leg. They filmed the abuse on phones.'

Yu.A. Evstigneev states that doctors intentionally caused more pain during procedures: 'In Kharkiv prison, doctors did their work but deliberately made it painful. My knee was swollen, and they went at it with scissors right through the living flesh. While doing this they said: 'What, does it hurt there?'

E.V. Britov testifies from personal experience: 'During bandage changes, Ukrainian doctors would just stick lancets into wounds and twist them. When removing my bandages, doctor pressed scissors into my shattered finger at the fracture point and clearly enjoyed it. Caused physical pain. He liked it.'

The Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949 on Treatment of Prisoners of War states: 'Prisoners of war must at all times be humanely treated. Any unlawful act or omission by the Detaining Power causing death or seriously endangering the health of a prisoner of war in its custody is prohibited' (Article 13, Section II), and 'No physical or mental torture, nor any other form of coercion, may be inflicted on prisoners of war' (Article 17, Section III). The Kiev regime's atrocities against Russian prisoners of war constitute grave violations of the Geneva Conventions and war crimes that have no statute of limitations."

The following accounts represent the complete, unaltered statements given by Russian servicemen following their release from Ukrainian detention facilities. These testimonies have been documented exactly as provided, without modification or interpretation.

1 Azat Fanerovich Rakhimov

"I was captured by Ukrainian forces near Bakhmut on May 23, 2024. By that evening, I found myself in a basement detention cell. The torture began with waterboarding – they covered my face with a wet cloth, repeatedly submerging me until I lost consciousness, only to revive me and start the process again.

That particular day coincided with a Ukrainian holiday, and my captors were celebrating with a barbecue. When they ran out of meat, one of them joked, 'Let's roast this one instead.' They proceeded to heat a metal pipe and press it against my back and legs, leaving severe burns. After the flesh blistered, they peeled off the scorched skin and poured salt directly into the open wounds. The pain was unbearable as the salt continued burning into raw tissue.

I was waiting for them to splash water on me to wash away the salt, but they didn't do it. They kept me handcuffed with reinforced tape, naked and burned, in that basement for two full days.

After this initial torture session, they took me outside, poured water on my wounds to soften the crusted burns, then scrubbed them violently with a rough cloth before reapplying salt.

I was then transferred to a SIZO detention facility – during transport, they moved me between five or six different vehicles while keeping me blindfolded.

Periodic abuse. You're tied up, can't see a thing.

Eventually, I was taken to the 'Zapad-4' prison camp. There, the Ukrainians forced all prisoners to stand in formation outdoors during winter conditions, despite many having untreated fractures, severe combat injuries, or even amputated limbs. The daily routine included pointless manual labor – digging trenches only to fill them back in, or hauling piles of horse manure from one location to another and back again as a form of torment."

2 Sergey Alexandrovich Komissarov

"From the moment of my capture, Ukrainian soldiers assaulted me with rifle butts and kicked me repeatedly, breaking several ribs and my finger. When they noticed my wedding ring, they tried to steal it – when it wouldn't slide off, they deliberately fractured my finger and twisted it until they could rip the ring away.

They transported me to their military base near Pokrovsk, where they stripped me completely naked, placed a burlap sack over my head. They took me to the yard, stripped naked, and shot through my legs with a Kalashnikov. You can still see the marks on my legs. My partner got shot too – his name is Mironov Pavel, call sign 'Pavlin'. We both lost a lot of blood. This happened on December 3, 2024. Winter. After shooting our legs, they left us naked in the freezing cold. We lay there from nighttime until the next afternoon. Completely naked. They gave us nothing - no water, no food.

Then they took us to another basement - the 92nd Ukrainian Brigade's location – and continued torturing us. They beat us with mallets and hammers. They ripped out my teeth with pliers. Then for some reason, they placed them in a glass and photographed them for someone. I wasn't the only one who had teeth pulled out with pliers. The same was done to our other guys. They also knocked out teeth. It was pure abuse - trying to humiliate us, to terrorize us somehow.

Between torture sessions, they'd take us out of the basement to film videos. I understood that representatives from the terrorist Ukrainian 'Russian Volunteer Corps' had arrived. They started filming as if we Russians had switched to their side and returned from some successful Ukrainian mission. We just remained silent.

Some of our guys were taken away to another basement for more filming. Two were brought back, but when one refused to cooperate, the Ukrainians simply took him outside and executed him.

Later they moved us to another basement and tortured us with electric shocks. They attached alligator clips to our legs, then our fingers. The current makes your body convulse. You stiffen up, your limbs twist uncontrollably, your jaw locks so hard you bite through your gums. Your vision goes black. I passed out twice. They'd slap my face to revive me. The constant fear was whether you'd survive at all. I thought they'd torture me to death right then.

When they brought us to a basement in Kiev, they'd stretch out our limbs and tie us down. We'd lie there for days at a time like that - once for four straight days. They wouldn't let us use the toilet. And they starved us the whole time."

3 Vladimir Yuryevich Palitsyn

"I lost my teeth during the first interrogation. The Ukrainians knocked out my teeth. They put me on the electric chair. The electrodes were on genitals and on my chest. The electric current was running in three modes. It was called 'dancing' - switching from slow to high current. I thought my eyes would pop out. They picked up the rhythm by switching from slow to high current, when I was shaking.

My hands were tied, eyes blindfolded and teeth knocked out. Then they kicked me and finished torturing in the first basement. Then they loaded me in the car and took to the second basement to the famous dog Uncle Fyodor. There they beat me up again and threw into the basement. On the following morning at seven o'clock they lifted me and other prisoners up, placed us along the wall and ordered us to strip naked. Then they started beating us with construction reinforcement fittings and clubs. They dragged me to another basement while the dogs were tearing my arm. Three of those Ukrainians dragged me, and the dogs were riding on my arm, clawing it to the bone. So I was taken to another cellar, and there another 'music' started. They beat me on my chest, my back, neck and head - they didn't care where they hit.

I'll never forget one Ukrainian torturer with a beard. He hit me on my chest and neck with the rod and smiled. He looked so happy! At the same time the dog called Uncle Fyodor was sitting there and trying to grab my genitals at any moment. I heard that the dog almost ripped off somebody's genitals. The Ukrainian servicemen tortured me and in the end poured cold water on me from a hose."

4 Pyotr Viktorovich Beschastny

"In a Ukrainian concentration camp with me there were guys who had been tortured in the basement called 'At Sanych's'. They told me how they had clothes pegs attached to their genitals and nipples and an electric generator was turned on. They called it an 'electric chair'. Then there was a dog called Fedya. Ukrainians threw people into an enclosure and set the dogs on them. Everyone was bitten. One man's arm and body were all bitten by dogs. Quite a few prisoners of war were mauled by the dogs to death.

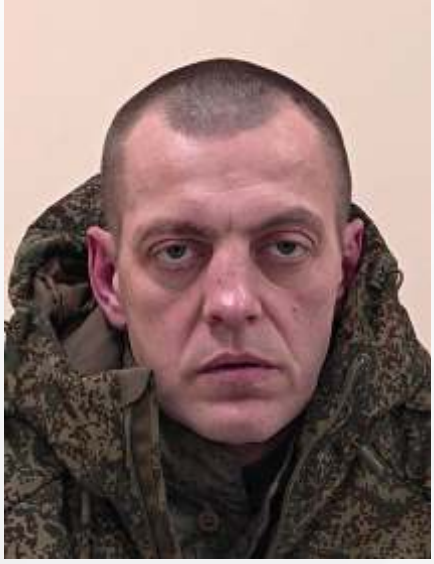
Ukrainians poured boiling water on one prisoner's foot directly from the kettle. It was just before he was supposed to leave. It was in the pre-trial detention centre in Vinnitsa. He jumped on one leg because his foot did not heal. In Vinnitsa they did not have doctors or food - nothing at all.

In the pre-trial detention centre in Vinnytsia on Strizhenko Street every morning we were lined up in the corridor against the wall and were beaten. They beat us with

batons and fists on the kidneys. Then they would take us out for an alleged walk, let us breathe for ten minutes and bring us back in. Then exactly the same procedure started again. They beat us on the kidneys.

I was slapped on my ears with two palms. They beat me in my chest so hard that I jumped straight across the floor two or three metres with a chair. It had only recently stopped crunching in my chest."

5 Evgeny Valeryevich Britov



"At the 'West-1' concentration camp prisoners told me how Ukrainians set the dogs to attack people. One prisoner was literally mauled up by the dogs in front of other people's eyes. He died. Another was buried up to neck and the dog was brought very close to him. The dog was trained to attack people. It would bite his head.

One prisoner was tortured with a hot iron. The torturers heated up a big nail and put it on the guy's belly. I saw those scars myself on the body of Maxim Tsiolkovsky. He was from Lugansk. He was about 25- 27 years old. I don't know where he is now. He stayed at the 'Zapad-1' concentration camp. He had about ten - centimetre scars from that red-hot nail. They were clearly visible.

Ukrainian doctors used to stick lancets into wounds and twist them several times. When they took off my bandages, the doctor used scissors to break my shattered finger and did it all with pleasure. It was physically painful. He loved it. In the end he only sprayed my finger with some medical spray, but did not provide any medical care."

6 Mikhail Ivanovich Rodionov

"When we were captured and taken prisoner, they blindfolded me and tied my hands behind my back and kicked me in the face. Then they handed me over to the Security Service of Ukraine officers in Kupyansk. There I was beaten with a spatula.They saw in my military card that I served for a long time, so because of this I was beaten with a sapper shovel.

Then they moved us to another house. We were blindfolded and our hands were tied. Ukrainians put a gun to my head as if they were going to shoot me. Then they moved me to the basement and from there to a pit, and started beating me with an iron pipe. When they called me in for interrogation, they strangled me with hoses. O n e Ukrainian was interrogating me and another one stood next to me and choked me with a hose. They said they would strip me for organs.

They strangled me and beat me with sticks. The same thing was in the Kharkov prison. There was some Vasya, they called him 'Vasya the Beater'. I was beaten exactly on my wound.

In the concentration camp the prisoners of war told how the Rottweiler dogs were set on them. The prisoners were electrocuted and threatened that their genitals would be cut off. One prisoner had his leg and foot drilled.

At first they beat him and then they drilled his leg in two places. Ukrainians beat prisoners with sticks, iron bars, iron pipes and clubs. The prisoners' hands were beaten off and broken. Two people were beaten and forced to urinate on each other".

7 Vladimir Stepanovich Arutyunov

'In the concentration camp 'West-4" in the city of Lvov there were about 800 people. Ukrainians tortured 90% of them. Our group was captured and beaten with batons.

Some guys were tortured on the electric chair and dogs were set on them. Many were bitten by the dogs.

One friend of mine was also exchanged together with me. His little finger on his right hand doesn't move after being tortured by the dogs.

The Ukrainians put a wet rag on a prisoner's face and poured water on it. A man could not breathe. Some prisoners were tortured in the houses in the Sudzha region.

I was forced by an employee of the Investigative Committee of Ukraine to say that Russian forces used chemical weapons. It was in the concentration camp. They set up a camera. The investigator stood next to it, and an armed Ukrainian serviceman stood behind the investigator and the camera. They warned me and told me what to say.

They demanded we say that we had chemical weapons and that we had rocket-propelled grenades with the letter X. They forced other prisoners to sign the papers.

When the guys refused to sign, they were taken to the basements in Kiev and were starved and beaten there. Ukrainians told them that they would find their relatives, dismember them and destroy them."

8 Yury Andreyevich Evstigneev

"Ukrainians beat us with bats and broke some guys' legs. I was in a very bad condition after four bullet wounds. I can say that I was symbolically beaten.

Ukrainian military forced two prisoners to dig their own grave. They said that they were going to shoot them dead.

Some of their commanders came down to our basement where we were. They said, that by the evening everyone should be shot.

I had a shot through foot. The Ukrainians stepped on my wounded foot and twisted my knee. They hit my wounds on purpose. My fingers were broken, but they deliberately squeezed my hand.

In the Kharkov prison the doctors did their job, but so that it would hurt. My knee was swollen.

The doctors used scissors to cut it straight through and they would say: “Does it hurt there?”

I remember a guy. His name was Maxim. He was electrocuted, and after that he had blackouts. It took him about a month before he came to his senses.

The Ukrainians set the dogs on our guys. There were guys with me at the concentration camp with dog bites. The dogs were specially trained on biting the people, as they say, on Moskals (a pejorative term for Russians).

Ukrainian torturers eat prisoners and broke their bones with bats. They cut out a German fascist cross on one guy's back.

In the 'West-1'concentration camp I saw a swastika cut out with knives. Prisoners were electrocuted, beaten and shot at - all according to the same script.

When you consider these basements, which you pass through, you understand that the Kiev regime is really a fascist organization. When you are already in prison, you might survive, but in those basements, you have a little chance of surviving, especially if you're wounded.

I know a guy who was beaten to death with a shovel in one of those basements. They are exactly the Ukrainian fascists.

If some journalist or Red Cross member comes to see what is going on, Ukrainians try to show Europeans that they are so good. Well, of course prisoners do not tell the Red Cross about everything that happened. They do not tell the truth because they do not trust them.

They know that the Red Cross is the Ukrainian protector. If you tell them the truth, Ukrainians can just shoot you or beat you to death".

9 Dmitry Sergeevich Rychin

"During the assault Alexei Soprykin and I were taken captive near Peschanoye village.

We were both wounded. I had a bullet wound, and Alexei had multiple shrapnel wounds. When we were taken prisoner, Alexey being unarmed was shot by a Ukrainian fighter. I was lucky to stay alive.

They just shot him. He was unarmed. His arms and legs were damaged by grenade splinters. They just shot him out of anger.

In the detention centre people told me many things. Somebody's fingers were cut off. Ukrainian servicemen used electric chairs, drowned prisoners in water.

I used to think that such things could only happen in the films. But no, it turns out that Ukrainian imagination was very vast.

One guy was buried in sand up to his head, and then Ukrainians set the dogs on him. I saw dogs bite marks on people."

Evgeny Anatolyevich Skorlupkin

Roman Valentinovich Chernikov

Andrey Valeryevich Brovkin

10 Evgeny Anatolyevich Skorlupkin

"When we were taken prisoner, they brought us to some house. I understand that they had something like some kind of headquarters for drone pilots there. They beat us and kicked us with a rubber truncheon, a hose, and the butt of an automatic rifle. I lost consciousness twice. Then the 36th Marine Brigade came.

They brought us to the basement, and a specially trained Ukrainian arrived. His call sign was 'Funtik.' He tortured us with his fists, feet, hoses, polypropylene pipes and a stun gun. For the first five months he came every other day. He took great pleasure in torturing us. He tried to educate us: he forced us to learn the Ukrainian anthem and Ukrainian poems. He would hand out Ukrainian poems on a piece of paper. If we couldn't remember, he tortured us. Then, apparently, his bosses did not like us screaming during torture. Anyway, they asked him to come a little bit less often."

11 Roman Valentinovich Chernikov

"At present the Ukrainian concentration camp 'Zapad-1' in Lvov is holding a prisoner of war Artem Yevgenyevich Samoilov. The Ukrainians cut out a swastika on his body. They hid him from the Red Cross. When they grabbed me, I got knocked on the floor and somebody put a machine gun to my temple. Another Ukrainian military stepped on the prisoner's face. The Ukrainian military are young and aggressive. They are beasts. I told him: “You're about to get that person's head bashed in.” And he told me: "Shut up, otherwise you won't get anywhere at all.”

12 Andrey Valeryevich Brovkin

“Ukrainians poured water on my face and drowned me. They beat me and other prisoners with iron pipes, bats stuffed with sand and rubber truncheons. Somebody was put on the electric chair. They were setting the dogs on the prisoners of course. Dogs were a must. That was the first thing. I had two rottweilers. They bit everyone. Ukrainians are sadists."

13 Nikolay Ivanovich Makushin

"Those Ukrainian servicemen who captured me, already started beating me. Then they handed me over to others. The others brought me to the cellar. They wanted to squeeze my wounded hand, but then they looked at me and saw that I already had worms there in my arm. They beat me heavily and knocked out my teeth. Later we came to Dnepropetrovsk, and they took me to the hospital. In the hospital the surgeons performed live surgery without anesthesia. My hand still doesn't move. Then I was brought to a Ukrainian concentration camp.

In the camp the Ukrainians did whatever they wished. They took me into a room and beat me. Even the duty officer could come in and beat us up. Other Ukrainian servicemen kicked prisoners. Some inspectors could beat them with batons. Most of them kicked. In six months they had a dressing done once. It was very difficult to persuade them to give pills."

14 Vadim Valeryevich Druzhinin

"We were handed over to the 'Azov' fighters. They said: "Do you know where you are?" It was like you were kind of dead already. Right from the van with the cage we crawled and were kicked and beaten. There was some kind of a garage, and the cages are welded there. My bandage came off and I saw that there in front of me the Ukrainians beat our guy with a fire extinguisher and with a jar full of something.

I was hit with a fire extinguisher too. I had something in my chest clicking when I was breathing, for a month. After we came out of the cage, they took us on some kind of a bus and moved us four times beating all the time. They took us to the central prison.

15 Oleg Igorevich Kisolev

"My leg was broken with a bat. Two or three people attacked me with a bat from different sides. They smashed my head. I woke up in a pool of my own blood.

They broke my arm and my leg. They smashed my knee cups. All with a bat.

If you raised your head at them, they'd put the bat right in your face.

I saw one with a beard. He was young, about 30 years old, very big. He told me: "Let me cut off your leg, you're tired, probably. I said: "Better kill me. Do not cut anything."

16 Fedor Vasilyevich Chukurov

"I and two other prisoners' legs were broken with a bat. The Ukrainians were mocking, saying: “What shall we beat them with today?

Do we have a hose or a shovel? So they decided to beat us with a bat. They broke our legs.

They threw us out in the shed. We lay there until evening. Then they put us back in the pickup car. I had an open fracture.

There were no dressings, they did nothing. Then they pulled the shrapnel out of my leg with no anaesthetic. The doctors used foul language in my address and kicked my broken leg. They mocked me and filmed it on their phones.”

17 Evgeniy Vitalievich Parkov

"They took us to a field, in which there was a concrete cube without a bottom, It was cold and the grate was icy cold. We were blindfolded, our hands were tied.

Before they loaded us, they beat us with baseball bats. These were 'Azov' men. They had swastikas on their bodies.

They said all sorts of slogans on their hatred of Russians. I lost consciousness. They kept us there for three and a half days. Every day there was a repeated beating.

One of the four prisoners was beaten so much that when they carried us back in, he died. When that man died, they told me: 'You are next.' "

18 Rustem Faritovich Kalif

"I couldn't walk, and when I got out, Ukrainians shot me in the other leg and said: “Drop him.” One of them reloaded his machine gun. He wanted to shoot me, but then changed his mind for some reason. Finally, they took me away and brought me to the basement. There they kicked me specifically in the wounded places and on my knee. Ukrainian guards beat my heel off with a truncheon on my other leg.

Then they took us to the pre-trial detention centre in Kharkov. On the way they changed five or six vans with prisoners. They intimidated and kicked us all the way."

Valery Alexandrovich Podat

Sergey Mikhailovich Belyaev

Vasily Vasilievich Svechnikov

Alexander Sergeevich Vorchuk

19 Valery Alexandrovich Podat

"Ukrainian guards beat us with pipes, boards, a wooden sledgehammer and a mallet. When they transported us from basement to basement and at checkpoints towards Kharkov there was total violence. At checkpoints they threw us out of the van and beat us with a mallet and a bat. They broke my ribs."

20 Sergey Mikhailovich Belyaev

"Ukrainian guards beat us at the garage in Kramatorsk. There were nine of us at that time. They gathered us all in one 'loaf' van and drove us to the pre-trial detention centre. Every transfer was accompanied by beating."

21 Vasily Vasilievich Svechnikov

"Ukrainians said that we were Yakuts and they hated Yakuts. That was why they beat us. They beat us on our backs, heads and our legs. Just because we are Yakuts. Then they beat us in the Kharkov prison too. In the hospital they bullied us."

22 Alexander Sergeevich Vorchuk

"When Ukrainian servicemen captured me, they shot at me and wanted simply to kill me. They said it to me frankly. Then they shot at my legs - my legs were shot through. They cauterized the shrapnel wounds that I already had before. There they dragged me around like a piece of *... Then they took me in a van to a basement and dressed me in Ukrainian clothes. I was tortured with an electric shocker and strangled by putting a bag over my head. I lost consciousness, but they brought me back to my senses with an electric shocker. They cauterized my wounds and beat me with a stick and a metal pipe the whole night. I was held in three basements and was tortured in all three. In Kharkov I was beaten again."

Yuri Ilyich Degtyevich

Igor Igorevich Ushakov

Yuri Petrovich Nikolaev

Ivan Ivanovich Fomenko

23 Yuri Ilyich Degtyevich

"Two of our guys were shot in captivity. The Ukrainian guards themselves bragged about it."

24 Igor Igorevich Ushakov

"In the camp the guys said that they were hooked up to electric current, stripped naked, and had clamps hung on them.

The Ukrainian guards hung prisoners of war by their limbs, and smashed their heads with baseball bats. One guy was healthy when he was captured. However, when he arrived at the concentration camp, his skull was rotten and there was shrapnel in his skull. They beat them with sapper shovels. Then they finished them off, simply shot them dead. There were many stories how the Ukrainians executed people."

25 Yuri Petrovich Nikolaev

"The Azov men captured us. They beat us heavily. They brought us to their place. They had cages welded into the garage. That was where they kept us. They used to put a bag over our heads and beat and kicked us with their fists, feet, and fire extinguishers. They broke our ribs and hit us on the back, but didn't hit us on the face, so that no marks would be visible. Other prisoners were electrocuted."

26 Ivan Ivanovich Fomenko

"Ukrainian guards stripped us naked. Then they took bats, clubs and sticks and beat us. They set two dogs on us and the dogs tore us apart while the Ukrainians watched. They also used whips and lashed us with nagaika whips with a short handle and kind of metal wire at the end.

They beat us with pipes and tortured us with electric current. In the basement where I was, they had a special torture chamber. They beat half of us just in the basement, and another half of us in the torture chamber."

27 Alexander Anatolyevich Shurakhov

"They took us to the 'Azov' location and put us in a pit. All of us who arrived were immediately told to strip naked and were beaten with whips, sticks, and clubs.

One of us was beaten on his head. After that he walked around wheezing all day.

They also beat him with a whip - thick threads, tied together. One whip was red, another one was black.

There were these iron things on the ends of those whips. All his ribs were broken. We woke up in the morning and saw that he was dead.

The guards made us turn to face the wall and beat everyone in turn. Then they swapped the whip for a club or a stick and beat us with them.

They also loved setting Rottweilers on us. Look, my ear is damaged. It was a Rottweiler dog.

Those who tortured us did not hide the fact that they were from the Azov battalion. They tortured us with electricity: attached electrodes to the genitals and to the chest.

They also tied a black plastic bag around our heads and strangled us. They used to ask: “Are you still alive? Okay, live.”

28 Ivan Petrovich Myakishev

"On their holiday the Ukrainian guards beat up all the prisoners as hard as they could. They even crushed one prisoner's hand with a baton. To torture us they used electric shock and batons.

When I was in the "Zapad-4" concentration camp, one prisoner asked for ointment for burns.

The Ukrainian guards didn't give it to him. They tortured him with a hot pipe. They heated it up over a fire and rolled it over his body.

I talked to a man who had a tourniquet put on his arm and tightened so much that his arm went numb and completely atrophied. He still can't move it after six months. His arm became thin and turned blue, but still does not move.

I think using dogs was their favorite torture. They keep fighting breeds and don't feed them making them very aggressive. The guy who was beaten by the dogs is still in captivity. They did not change him yet. His legs are still rotting from the dog bites. They also used an electric chair.

They beat prisoners until they turned blue. They broke their limbs, broke their arms. They said: “You won't need them anymore."

29 Ochir Dugartsrenovich Gergenov

"Ukrainians hit me with baseball bats on all my joints: on my knees, shoulders and arms.

They still hurt.Now I can't do two push-ups from the floor, I can't even lift a mattress or a pillow.

They said: "You, Buryat, sit here." For the first time in my life I learned what a stun gun was.

They fried me for an hour from head to toe; fried all my body on the back side. When I arrived at the pre-trial detention center, I smelled burnt meat.

When I undressed, the guys were really freaked out. All my body was burnt.

The Ukrainians beat me and then took pictures of each other with me. They sent photos via Internet and WhatsApp writing "Just imagine, we caught a Buryat."

They told me: "Shall we put a knife under your ribs and cut off your genitals and foam up your anus."

30 Nikolay Vladimirovich Potapov

"When I was captured, the Ukrainian servicemen took me to their basement. They beat me with metal pipes, bars and fists.

They also kicked me hard. When they got tired, they hit me with iron pieces.

They beat me until morning. They said that their bosses told them that the prisoners should have hands and faces without bruises. They said: "Prisoners should not have bruises. All the rest you can do what you wish."

They beat me on my left leg. I had a shrapnel wound on my leg from the grenade.

They jumped on that leg, which had a shrapnel wound, and they broke it. The Ukrainian torturer stepped on my leg and heard it crunch.

He said: "Look, there's a crunch there. It must be a fracture there." So it turned out that he finished off my leg.

They were finishing me off. They broke my ribs. I felt very bad, I walked 5-10 meters and was so short of breath that I did not have enough oxygen.

In the concentration camp one guy told me that the Ukrainians shot him in his leg.

One bullet got stuck in his leg and another one went right through his foot. They do these things in their torture basements too."